

Crew Returns Home After Final Shuttle Mission

Written by Larry Nelson

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Image above: Space shuttle Atlantis lands for the final time at NASA's Kennedy Space Center in Florida.

Atlantis touched down yesterday on the Shuttle Landing Facility's Runway 15 at 5:57 a.m. EDT. The landing brought to a close 30 years of space shuttle flights. The STS-135 crew consisted of Ferguson, Pilot Doug Hurley, Mission Specialist Sandra Magnus and Rex Walheim.

On the 13-day mission, the STS-135 crew delivered to the International Space Station more than 9,400 pounds of spare parts, spare equipment and other supplies in the Raffaello multi-purpose logistics module, including 2,677 pounds of food. The supplies will sustain space station operations for the next year. The 21-foot long, 15-foot diameter Raffaello brought back nearly 5,700 pounds of unneeded materials from the station.

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